

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in their application:

1. (Previously Presented) An audio system for use in a vehicle, comprising:

a plurality of audio sources connected to an amplifier, the amplifier comprising a respective balance setting for each audio source and configured to provide a respective amplified audio signal to each of a plurality of speakers, where the audio sources are operable to generate a plurality of audio output signals that are supplied to the amplifier;

and

a control unit connected with the amplifier, and configured to adjust the respective amplified audio signals for each speaker based on each of the respective audio sources that generates the audio output signal, where the control unit includes a user interface for independently setting each respective balance setting of each respective audio source, where the control unit is further configured to adjust the balance settings based upon a user selected audio source.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) The audio system of claim 1 where the control unit includes an audio manager module operable to control the balance setting of the amplifier connected to the speakers based on the respective balance setting for each audio source.
7. (Previously Presented) The audio system of claim 1 where the control unit includes a means for adjustment operable to allow a user to independently adjust the balance setting of each of the respective audio sources.
8. (Previously Presented) The audio system of claim 1 where the control unit includes a user interface module operable to receive a user adjustment of the respective balance setting of the user selected audio source for each respective audio source.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Previously Presented) The audio system of claim 1 where the control unit is configured to store the respective balance setting for each respective audio source.
11. (Previously Presented) The audio system of claim 1 where the user selected audio source comprises at least one audio source from a group of audio sources including a navigation system, a tuner, a remote terminal, a compact disc player, a digital video disc player, an MP3 player, a radio data service tuner, a television, a satellite radio, an Internet radio, a cassette player, and a text-to-speech system.
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously Presented) An audio system for a vehicle, comprising:
a plurality of audio sources configured to generate a plurality of audio output
signals;
an amplifier connected to the audio sources, and configured to receive the audio
output signals generated by the audio sources;
a plurality of speakers connected to the amplifier; and

a head unit connected to the amplifier operable to control a balance setting of the speakers for each respective audio source configured to generate the audio output signals, where the head unit is operable to generate a user interface configured to receive an audio source balance setting for each respective audio source, and further configured to store each respective audio source balance setting for each respective audio source.

25. (Previously Presented) The audio system of claim 24 where the amplifier includes a balance setting circuit and the amplifier is configured to be controlled by the head unit.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) The audio system of claim 24 where the head unit includes an audio manager module operable to control the amplifier based upon the audio source balance setting for each respective audio source.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) The audio system of claim 24 where at least one audio source is selected from a group of audio sources including a navigation system, a tuner, a remote terminal, a compact disc player, a digital video disc player, an MP3 player, a radio data service tuner, a television, a satellite radio, an Internet radio, a cassette player, and a text-to-speech system.

32. (Previously Presented) A method of controlling balance settings for a plurality of audio sources in an audio system for a vehicle, comprising:

generating a plurality of audio output signals from a plurality of audio sources;

transmitting the audio output signals from the audio sources to an amplifier;

receiving selected balance settings for selected audio sources with a head unit connected to the amplifier;

storing the selected balance settings received from the head unit as the respective audio source balance settings for the selected audio sources; and

reproducing an audio output signal on at least two speakers based upon a stored selected balance setting for one of the selected audio sources.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 where the head unit includes a graphical user interface configured to receive a selected balance setting of a selected audio source from an occupant of the vehicle, where each audio source can be associated with a respective audio source balance setting.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Canceled)

36. (Canceled)

37. (Canceled)

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 where at least one audio source is selected from a group of audio sources including a navigation system, a tuner, a remote terminal, a compact disc player, a digital video disc player, an MP3 player, a radio data service tuner, a television, a satellite radio, an Internet radio, a cassette player and a text-to-speech system.

39. (Previously Presented) An audio system for use in a vehicle comprising:
a plurality of audio sources connected to an amplifier operably coupled to a plurality of speakers;
a control unit connected to the amplifier;
a passenger category selection module located on the control unit and configured to receive a user selected passenger category from a plurality of passenger categories, and each passenger category includes a respective balance setting for each audio source; and
a user interface module located on the control unit, and configured to adjust a balance setting of the plurality of speakers for the selected passenger category based on a respective audio source that generates an audio output signal and the user selected passenger category.

40. (Previously Presented) The audio system of claim 39 further comprising an audio manager module configured to control the amplifier to audibly reproduce the audio output signal in a predetermined number of speakers based upon the balance setting for each of the audio sources.

41. (Previously Presented) The audio system of claim 39 where the passenger category selection module is operable to generate a balance setting graphical user interface configured to receive a balance setting for each respective audio source for each respective passenger category.

42. (Previously Presented) The audio system of claim 39 where the passenger categories include a driver category, a co-driver category, a backseat passenger category and a children category.

43. (Previously Presented) A method of controlling balance settings in an audio system for a vehicle, comprising:

receiving a selected passenger category selected from a plurality of passenger categories, where the passenger category includes a respective balance setting for each of a plurality of audio sources;

receiving an adjustment for the balance setting of at least one audio source for the selected passenger category; and

reproducing audio output signals based on the balance setting for each audio source.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43 where the audio system comprises a passenger category selection module located on a control unit, the method further comprising

generating a graphical user interface on the passenger category selection module to display the plurality of passenger categories and to receive the selected passenger category.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43 where the plurality of passenger categories comprises at least one of a group of passenger categories including a driver category, a co-driver category, a backseat passenger category and a children category.

46. (Canceled)

47. (Canceled)

48. (Canceled)

49. (Canceled)

50. (Canceled)

51. (Canceled)

52. (Canceled)

53. (Canceled)

54. (Canceled)

55. (Canceled)

56. (Cancelled).